

REMARKS

The final Office Action of November 20, 2006, and the Advisory Action of February 8, 2007, have been received and reviewed.

Claims 25-32 and 64-66 are currently pending and under consideration in the above-referenced application. Of these, claims 25-32 have been allowed, and claim 66 recites allowable subject matter. A formal objection has been raised against claim 29, while claims 64 and 65 stand rejected.

It is proposed that claims 29 and 64 be revised and that claim 66 be canceled. Each of these proposed amendments is made without prejudice or disclaimer.

Reconsideration of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Claim Objection

The Office has objected to the inclusion of "silicon nitride" in claim 29. It is proposed that claim 29 be revised to remove the recitation of "silicon nitride." Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 29 is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 64 and 65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for being drawn to subject matter that is allegedly anticipated by the subject matter described in U.S. Publication 2003/0168342 of Chakravorty et al. (hereinafter "Chakravorty").

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element, as set forth in the claim, is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single reference which qualifies as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102. *Verdegaal Brothers v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

It was noted in the final Office Action that Chakravorty does not expressly or inherently describe a device that barrier layer on the first surface of a substrate. Final Office Action, page 3. As proposed to be amended herein, independent claim 64 is directed to an intermediate semiconductor device component that includes a substrate with a barrier layer on a first surface

thereof. As Chakravorty does not anticipate this element of amended independent claim 64, it is respectfully submitted that, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), the subject matter to which amended independent claim 64 is drawn is allowable over the described in Chakravorty.

Claim 65 is allowable, among other reasons, for depending directly from independent claim 64, which is allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

The allowance of claims 25-32 and the indication that claim 66 recites allowable subject matter are gratefully acknowledged. The subject matter recited in claim 66 has been incorporated into independent claim 64, placing that claim and claim 65 depending therefrom in condition for allowance.

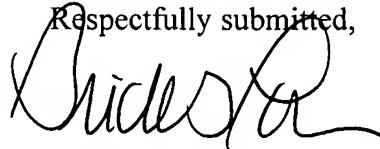
Entry of Amendments

Entry of the proposed claim amendments is respectfully solicited, as their entry would eliminate all issues that remain for purposes of appeal, and would not introduce new matter into the above-referenced application or necessitate an additional search. In the event that the proposed amendments to the claims are not entered, their entry is respectfully requested upon the filing of a Notice of Appeal in the above-referenced application.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that each of claims 25-32, 64 , and 65 is allowable. An early notice of the allowability of each of these claims is respectfully solicited, as is an indication that the above-referenced application has been passed for issuance. If any issues preventing allowance of the above-referenced application remain which might be resolved by way of a telephone conference, the Office is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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